

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the STRIVE employment program.

My personal experience with STRIVE was a positive one and I found the program extremely helpful. Like so many people in this tough economy, I hadn't worked for a long time. The program helped me prepare for the current job market by helping me update and sharpen my job search skills, update my resume, improve my attitude and increase my self-esteem. It teaches everything from teamwork, to interview preparation, to a proper handshake. In addition, I attended this intense three-week program at no cost to me. Since I'd been unemployed for so long, it would not have been possible for me to pay for these services.

I urge support of continued full funding to the STRIVE program. In the current tough job market any program that helps the unemployed prepare for and find work will benefit local communities and the state at large.

Sincerely,

Tracy Hammond
STRIVE graduate, cycle 122